

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 2431

AN ACT

To reauthorize the National Integrated Drought Information
System.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “National Integrated
3 Drought Information System Reauthorization Act of
4 2014”.

5 **SEC. 2. NIDIS PROGRAM AMENDMENTS.**

6 Section 3 of the National Integrated Drought Infor-
7 mation System Act of 2006 (15 U.S.C. 313d) is amend-
8 ed—

9 (1) in subsection (a), by inserting before the pe-
10 riod at the end the following: “to better inform and
11 provide for more timely decisionmaking to reduce
12 drought related impacts and costs”;

13 (2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the
14 following:

15 “(b) **SYSTEM FUNCTIONS.**—The National Integrated
16 Drought Information System shall—

17 “(1) provide an effective drought early warning
18 system that—

19 “(A) collects and integrates information on
20 the key indicators of drought and drought im-
21 pacts in order to make usable, reliable, and
22 timely forecasts of drought, including assess-
23 ments of the severity of drought conditions and
24 impacts; and

1 “(B) provides such information, forecasts,
2 and assessments on both national and regional
3 levels;

4 “(2) communicate drought forecasts, drought
5 conditions, and drought impacts on an ongoing basis
6 to public and private entities engaged in drought
7 planning and preparedness, including—

8 “(A) decisionmakers at the Federal, re-
9 gional, State, tribal, and local levels of govern-
10 ment;

11 “(B) the private sector; and

12 “(C) the public;

13 “(3) provide timely data, information, and
14 products that reflect local, regional, and State dif-
15 ferences in drought conditions;

16 “(4) coordinate, and integrate as practicable,
17 Federal research and monitoring in support of a
18 drought early warning system;

19 “(5) build upon existing forecasting and assess-
20 ment programs and partnerships, including through
21 the designation of one or more cooperative institutes
22 to assist with National Integrated Drought Informa-
23 tion System functions; and

24 “(6) continue ongoing research and monitoring
25 activities related to drought, including research ac-

1 tivities relating to length, severity, and impacts of
2 drought and the role of extreme weather events and
3 climate variability in drought.”; and

4 (3) by adding at the end the following:

5 “(e) REPORT.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months
7 after the date of enactment of the National Inte-
8 grated Drought Information System Reauthorization
9 Act of 2014, the Under Secretary shall transmit to
10 the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of
11 the House of Representatives and the Committee on
12 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Sen-
13 ate a report that contains—

14 “(A) an analysis of the implementation of
15 the National Integrated Drought Information
16 System program, including how the informa-
17 tion, forecasts, and assessments are utilized in
18 drought policy planning and response activities;

19 “(B) specific plans for continued develop-
20 ment of such program, including future mile-
21 stones; and

22 “(C) an identification of research, moni-
23 toring, and forecasting needs to enhance the
24 predictive capability of drought early warnings
25 that include—

1 “(i) the length and severity of
2 droughts;

3 “(ii) the contribution of weather
4 events to reducing the severity or ending
5 drought conditions; and

6 “(iii) regionally specific drought im-
7 pacts.

8 “(2) CONSULTATION.—In developing the report
9 under paragraph (1), the Under Secretary shall con-
10 sult with relevant Federal, regional, State, tribal,
11 and local government agencies, research institutions,
12 and the private sector.”.

13 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

14 Section 4 of such Act (15 U.S.C. 313d note) is
15 amended to read as follows:

16 **“SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

17 “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
18 this Act \$13,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through
19 2018.”.

Passed the House of Representatives February 10,
2014.

Attest:

Clerk.

113TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 2431

AN ACT

To reauthorize the National Integrated Drought
Information System.